



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : C12N 15/57, 9/54, C11D 3/386, A23K 1/165		A2	(11) International Publication Number: WO 99/20770
			(43) International Publication Date: 29 April 1999 (29.04.99)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/22572		(72) Inventors: SCHELLENBERGER, Volker; 1747 Sequoia Avenue, Burlingame, CA 94010 (US). KELLIS, James, T., Jr.; 111 Tan Oak Drive, Portola Valley, CA 94028 (US). PAECH, Christian; 914 Moreno Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94303 (US). NADHERNY, Joanne; 681 Arguello No. 6, San Francisco, CA 94118 (US). NAKI, Donald, P.; 4815 - 25th Street, San Francisco, CA 94118 (US). POULOSE, Ayrookaran, J.; 2848 Wakefield Drive, Belmont, CA 94002 (US). COLLIER, Katherine, D.; 915 Wilmington Way, Redwood City, CA 94062 (US). CALDWELL, Robert, M.; 915 Wilmington Way, Redwood City, CA 94062 (US). BAECK, André, C.; 273 Putsesteenweg, B-2820 Bonheiden (BE).	
(22) International Filing Date: 23 October 1998 (23.10.98)			
(30) Priority Data:			
08/956,323	23 October 1997 (23.10.97)	US	
08/956,324	23 October 1997 (23.10.97)	US	
08/956,564	23 October 1997 (23.10.97)	US	
(71) Applicants: GENENCOR INTERNATIONAL, INC. [US/US]; 4 Cambridge Place, 1870 South Winton Road, Rochester, NY 14618 (US). THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US).		(74) Agent: ANDERSON, Kirsten, A.; Genencor International, Inc., 925 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, CA 94304-1013 (US).	
		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU (Petty patent), AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
		Published Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.	
(54) Title: MULTIPLY-SUBSTITUTED PROTEASE VARIANTS			
(57) Abstract			
<p>Novel protease variants derived from the DNA sequences of naturally-occurring or recombinant non-human proteases are disclosed. The variant proteases, in general, are obtained by <i>in vitro</i> modification of a precursor DNA sequence encoding the naturally-occurring or recombinant protease to generate the substitution of a plurality of amino acid residues in the amino acid sequence of a precursor protease. Such variant proteases have properties which are different from those of the precursor protease, such as altered wash performance. The substituted amino acid residue corresponds to position 103 in combination with one or more of the following substitutions at residue positions corresponding to positions 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 27, 33, 37, 38, 42, 43, 48, 55, 57, 58, 61, 62, 68, 72, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 86, 87, 89, 97, 98, 99, 101, 102, 104, 106, 107, 109, 111, 114, 116, 117, 119, 121, 123, 126, 128, 130, 131, 133, 134, 137, 140, 141, 142, 146, 147, 158, 159, 160, 166, 167, 170, 173, 174, 177, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 188, 192, 194, 198, 203, 204, 205, 206, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 222, 224, 227, 228, 230, 232, 236, 237, 238, 240, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 265, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 274, and 275 of <i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i> subtilisin, wherein when a substitution at a position corresponding to residue position 103 is combined with a substitution at a position corresponding to residue position 76, there is also a substitution at one or more residue positions other than residue positions corresponding to positions 27, 99, 101, 104, 107, 109, 123, 128, 166, 204, 206, 210, 216, 217, 218, 222, 260, 265 or 274 of <i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i> subtilisin.</p>			

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece			TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	ML	Mali	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MN	Mongolia	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MR	Mauritania	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MW	Malawi	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	MX	Mexico	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NE	Niger	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NL	Netherlands	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NO	Norway	ZW	Zimbabwe
CJ	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	NZ	New Zealand		
CM	Cameroon			PL	Poland		
CN	China	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CU	Cuba	KZ	Kazakstan	RO	Romania		
CZ	Czech Republic	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
DE	Germany	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DK	Denmark	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
EE	Estonia	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		

MULTIPLY-SUBSTITUTED PROTEASE VARIANTS

Related Applications

The present application is a continuation-in-part application of United States
5 Patent Application 08/956,323, filed October 23, 1998, United States Patent
Application 08/956,564, filed October 23, 1998, and United States Patent Application
08/956,324 filed October 23, 1998, all of which are hereby incorporated herein in
their entirety.

10 Background of the Invention

Serine proteases are a subgroup of carbonyl hydrolases. They comprise a
diverse class of enzymes having a wide range of specificities and biological
functions. Stroud, R. Sci. Amer., **131**:74-88. Despite their functional diversity, the
catalytic machinery of serine proteases has been approached by at least two
15 genetically distinct families of enzymes: 1) the subtilisins and 2) the mammalian
chymotrypsin-related and homologous bacterial serine proteases (e.g., trypsin and
S. gresius trypsin). These two families of serine proteases show remarkably similar
mechanisms of catalysis. Kraut, J. (1977), Annu. Rev. Biochem., **46**:331-358.
Furthermore, although the primary structure is unrelated, the tertiary structure of
20 these two enzyme families bring together a conserved catalytic triad of amino acids
consisting of serine, histidine and aspartate.

Subtilisins are serine proteases (approx. MW 27,500) which are secreted in
large amounts from a wide variety of *Bacillus* species and other microorganisms.
The protein sequence of subtilisin has been determined from at least nine different
25 species of *Bacillus*. Markland, F.S., et al. (1983), Hoppe-Seyler's Z. Physiol. Chem.,
364:1537-1540. The three-dimensional crystallographic structure of subtilisins from
Bacillus amyloliquefaciens, *Bacillus licheniformis* and several natural variants of *B.*
lentus have been reported. These studies indicate that although subtilisin is
genetically unrelated to the mammalian serine proteases, it has a similar active site
30 structure. The x-ray crystal structures of subtilisin containing covalently bound
peptide inhibitors (Robertus, J.D., et al. (1972), Biochemistry, **11**:2439-2449) or
product complexes (Robertus, J.D., et al. (1976), J. Biol. Chem., **251**:1097-1103)
have also provided information regarding the active site and putative substrate
binding cleft of subtilisin. In addition, a large number of kinetic and chemical

Biol. Chem., 244:5333-5338) and extensive site-specific mutagenesis has been carried out (Wells and Estell (1988) TIBS 13:291-297)

Summary of the Invention

5 It is an object herein to provide protease variants containing a substitution of an amino acid at a residue position corresponding to position 103 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin and substituting one or more amino acids at residue positions selected from the group consisting of residue positions corresponding to positions 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 27, 33, 37, 38, 42, 43, 48,
10 55, 57, 58, 61, 62, 68, 72, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 86, 87, 89, 97, 98, 99, 101, 102, 104, 106, 107, 109, 111, 114, 116, 117, 119, 121, 123, 126, 128, 130, 131, 133, 134, 137, 140, 141, 142, 146, 147, 158, 159, 160, 166, 167, 170, 173, 174, 177, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 188, 192, 194, 198, 203, 204, 205, 206, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 222, 224, 227, 228, 230, 232, 236, 237, 238, 240, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246,
15 247, 248, 249, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 265, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 274 and 275 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin; wherein when a substitution at a position corresponding to residue position 103 is combined with a substitution at a position corresponding to residue position 76, there is also a substitution at one or more residue positions other than residue positions corresponding
20 to positions 27, 99, 101, 104, 107, 109, 123, 128, 166, 204, 206, 210, 216, 217, 218, 222, 260, 265, or 274 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin.

While any combination of the above listed amino acid substitutions may be employed, the preferred protease variant enzymes useful for the present invention comprise the substitution of amino acid residues in the following combinations of
25 positions. All of the residue positions correspond to positions of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin:

(1) a protease variant including substitutions of the amino acid residues at position 103 and at one or more of the following positions 236 and 245;

(2) a protease variant including substitutions of the amino acid residues at
30 positions 103 and 236 and at one or more of the following positions 1, 9, 12, 61, 62, 68, 76, 97, 98, 101, 102, 104, 109, 130, 131, 159, 183, 185, 205, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 215, 217, 230, 232, 248, 252, 257, 260, 270 and 275;

(3) a protease variant including substitutions of the amino acid residues at positions 103 and 245 and at one or more of the following positions 1, 9, 12, 61, 62, 68,
35 76, 97, 98, 101, 102, 104, 109, 130, 131, 159, 170, 183, 185, 205, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 215, 217, 222, 230, 232, 248, 252, 257, 260, 261, 270 and 275; or

(4) a protease variant including substitutions of the amino acid residues at positions 103, 236 and 245 and at one or more of the following positions 1, 9, 12, 61, 62, 68, 76, 97, 98, 101, 102, 104, 109, 130, 131, 159, 183, 185, 205, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 215, 217, 230, 232, 243, 248, 252, 257, 260, 270 and 275.

- 5 More preferred protease variants are substitution sets selected from the group consisting of residue positions corresponding to positions in Table 1 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin:

Table 1

[illegible]

19	76	76	103	104
13	76	76	103	104
19	76	76	103	104
76	103	103	104	184
76	103	103	104	252
76	103	103	104	259
76	103	103	104	251
76	86	103	103	104
72	76	76	103	104
76	103	103	104	237
76	103	103	104	160
76	103	103	104	228
55	76	76	103	104
76	103	103	104	254
76	103	103	104	204
76	103	103	104	204
43	76	76	103	104
76	103	103	104	159
10	76	76	103	104
58	76	76	103	104
76	103	103	104	270

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

68	76	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	260				
12	76	103	104	222	244	245							
12	76	103	222	210	245								
12	76	103	104	130	222	245							
22	68	76	103	104									
68	76	103	104	184									
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252					
68	103	104	159	232	236	245							
68	103	104	140	159	232	236	245	252					
43	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	252					
43	68	103	104	159	232	236	245						
43	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	252					
68	87	103	104	159	232	236	245	252	275				
12	76	103	104	130	222	245	248	262					
12	76	103	104	130	215	222	245						
12	76	103	104	130	222	227	245	262					
12	76	103	104	130	222	245	261						
76	103	104	130	222	245								
12	76	103	104	130	218	222	245	262	269				
12	57	76	103	104	130	222	245	251					
12	76	103	104	130	170	185	222	243	245				

12	76	103	104	130	222	245	268						
12	76	103	104	130	222	210	245						
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	257						
68	103	104	116	159	232	236	245						
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248						
10	68	103	104	159	232	236	245						
68	103	104	159	203	232	236	245						
68	103	104	159	232	236	237	245						
68	76	79	103	104	159	232	236	245					
68	103	104	159	183	232	236	245						
68	103	104	159	174	206	232	236	245					
68	103	104	159	188	232	236	245						
68	103	104	159	230	232	236	245						
68	98	103	104	159	232	236	245						
68	103	104	159	215	232	236	245						
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248						
68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245						
68	76	103	104	159	210	232	236	245					
68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245	257					
76	103	104	232	236	245	257							
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	257						

[illegible]

27	68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245				
68	76	103	104	116	159	170	185	232	236	245		
61	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252			
43	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	212	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	99	159	184	232	236	245	248	252		
103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252					
68	103	104	159	209	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	109	159	232	236	245	248	252			
20	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	209	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	261			
68	103	104	159	185	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	210	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	185	210	232	236	245	248	252		
68	103	104	159	212	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	213	232	236	245	248	252				
68	103	104	159	215	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	216	232	236	245	248	252			
20	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252			

68	103	104	159	173	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	251	252			
68	103	104	159	206	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
55	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	255			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	256			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	260			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	257			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	258			
8	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	269		
68	103	104	116	159	232	236	245	248	252	260		
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	261			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	261			
68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	232	236	245	248	252					
103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252					
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
18	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
68	76	101	103	104	159	213	218	232	236	245	260	

68	103	104	159	228	232	236	245	248	252			
33	68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252		
68	76	89	103	104	159	210	213	232	236	245	260	
61	68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252		
103	104	159	205	210	232	236	245					
61	68	103	104	130	159	232	236	245	248	252		
61	68	103	104	133	137	159	232	236	245	248	252	
61	103	104	133	159	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
68	103	104	159	218	232	236	245	248	252			
61	68	103	104	459	160	232	236	245	248	252		
3	61	68	76	103	104	232	236	245	248	252		
61	68	103	104	159	167	232	236	245	248	252		
97	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
98	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
99	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
101	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
102	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
103	104	106	159	232	236	245	248	252				
103	104	109	159	232	236	245	248	252				
103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	261				

-- 17 --

62	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252					
103	104	159	184	232	236	245	248	252					
103	104	159	166	232	236	245	248	252					
103	104	159	217	232	236	245	248	252					
20	62	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	248	252			
62	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	248	252				
103	104	159	206	217	232	236	245	248	252				
62	103	104	159	206	232	236	245	248	252				
103	104	130	159	232	236	245	248	252					
103	104	131	159	232	236	245	248	252					
27	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252					
38	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252					
38	76	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	260				
68	76	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	260	271			
68	76	103	104	159	209	213	232	236	245	260			
68	76	103	104	159	210	213	232	236	245	260			
68	76	103	104	159	205	213	232	236	245	260			
68	76	103	104	159	210	232	236	245	260				
68	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	260					
76	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	260					
68	103	104	159	209	232	236	245						

[illegible]

-- 19 --

103	104	159	205	209	232	236	245	260					
68	103	104	159	205	209	210	232	236	245				
103	104	159	205	209	210	232	236	245	257				
103	104	159	205	209	232	236	245	257					
68	103	104	159	205	209	210	232	236	245	260			
103	104	159	205	209	210	232	236	245					
103	104	159	209	210	232	236	245						
103	104	159	205	210	232	236	245						
68	103	104	128	159	232	236	245						
48	103	104	159	230	236	245							
48	68	103	104	159	209	232	236	245					
48	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
48	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	257	261				
102	103	104	159	212	232	236	245	248	252				
12	102	103	104	159	212	232	236	245	248	252			
101	102	103	104	159	212	232	236	245	248	252			
98	102	103	104	159	212	232	236	245	248	252			
102	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	248	252				
103	104	131	159	232	236	245	248	252					
103	104	159	184	232	236	245	248	252					
103	104	159	232	236	244	245	248	252					

62	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	248	252	256		
12	62	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	248	252		
101	103	104	159	185	232	236	245	248	252			
101	103	104	159	206	232	236	245	248	252			
101	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	248	252			
98	102	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252			
101	102	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252			
98	102	103	104	159	212	232	236	245	248	252		
98	102	103	104	159	212	232	236	248	252			
62	103	104	109	159	213	232	236	245	248	252		
62	103	104	159	212	213	232	236	245	248	252		
62	101	103	104	159	212	213	232	236	245	248	252	
103	104	159	232	245	248	252						
103	104	159	230	245								
62	103	104	130	159	213	232	236	245	248	252		
101	103	104	130	159	232	236	245	248	252			
101	103	104	128	159	232	236	245	248	252			
62	101	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	248	252		
62	103	104	128	159	213	232	236	245	248	252		
62	103	104	128	159	213	232	236	245	248	252		
101	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	260			

101	103	104	131	159	232	236	245	248	252				
98	101	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
99	101	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252				
101	103	104	159	212	232	236	245	248	252				
101	103	104	159	209	232	236	245	248	252				
101	103	104	159	210	232	236	245	248	252				
101	103	104	159	205	232	236	245	248	252				
101	103	104	159	230	236	245							
101	103	104	159	194	232	236	245	248	252				
76	101	103	104	159	194	232	236	245	248	252			
101	103	104	159	230	232	236	245	248	252				
62	103	104	159	185	206	213	232	236	245	248	252	271	

Most preferred protease variants are those shown in Table 3.

It is a further object to provide DNA sequences encoding such protease variants, as well as expression vectors containing such variant DNA sequences.

5 Still further, another object of the invention is to provide host cells transformed with such vectors, as well as host cells which are capable of expressing such DNA to produce protease variants either intracellularly or extracellularly.

There is further provided a cleaning composition comprising a protease variant of the present invention.

10 Additionally, there is provided an animal feed comprising a protease variant of the present invention.

Also provided is a composition for the treatment of a textile comprising a protease variant of the present invention.

15 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figs. 1 A-C depict the DNA and amino acid sequence for *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin and a partial restriction map of this gene.

Fig. 2 depicts the conserved amino acid residues among subtilisins from *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* (BPN)' and *Bacillus lentus* (wild-type).

20 Figs. 3A and 3B depict the amino acid sequence of four subtilisins. The top line represents the amino acid sequence of subtilisin from *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin (also sometimes referred to as subtilisin BPN'). The second line depicts the amino acid sequence of subtilisin from *Bacillus subtilis*. The third line depicts the amino acid sequence of subtilisin from *B. licheniformis*. The fourth line depicts the amino acid sequence of
25 subtilisin from *Bacillus lentus* (also referred to as subtilisin 309 in PCT WO89/06276). The symbol * denotes the absence of specific amino acid residues as compared to subtilisin BPN'.

Detailed Description of the Invention

30 Proteases are carbonyl hydrolases which generally act to cleave peptide bonds of proteins or peptides. As used herein, "protease" means a naturally-occurring protease or a recombinant protease. Naturally-occurring proteases include α -aminoacylpeptide hydrolase, peptidylamino acid hydrolase, acylamino hydrolase, serine carboxypeptidase, metallo-carboxypeptidase, thiol proteinase, carboxylproteinase and metalloproteinase.

35 Serine, metallo, thiol and acid proteases are included, as well as endo and exo-proteases.

The present invention includes protease enzymes which are non-naturally occurring carbonyl hydrolase variants (protease variants) having a different proteolytic activity, stability, substrate specificity, pH profile and/or performance characteristic as compared to the precursor carbonyl hydrolase from which the amino acid sequence of the variant is
5 derived. Specifically, such protease variants have an amino acid sequence not found in nature, which is derived by substitution of a plurality of amino acid residues of a precursor protease with different amino acids. The precursor protease may be a naturally-occurring protease or a recombinant protease.

The protease variants useful herein encompass the substitution of any of the
10 nineteen naturally occurring L-amino acids at the designated amino acid residue positions. Such substitutions can be made in any precursor subtilisin (procaryotic, eucaryotic, mammalian, etc.). Throughout this application reference is made to various amino acids by way of common one - and three-letter codes. Such codes are identified in Dale, M.W. (1989), Molecular Genetics of Bacteria, John Wiley & Sons, Ltd., Appendix B.

15 The protease variants useful herein are preferably derived from a *Bacillus* subtilisin. More preferably, the protease variants are derived from *Bacillus lentus* subtilisin and/or subtilisin 309.

Subtilisins are bacterial or fungal proteases which generally act to cleave peptide bonds of proteins or peptides. As used herein, "subtilisin" means a naturally-occurring
20 subtilisin or a recombinant subtilisin. A series of naturally-occurring subtilisins is known to be produced and often secreted by various microbial species. Amino acid sequences of the members of this series are not entirely homologous. However, the subtilisins in this series exhibit the same or similar type of proteolytic activity. This class of serine proteases shares a common amino acid sequence defining a catalytic triad which distinguishes them
25 from the chymotrypsin related class of serine proteases. The subtilisins and chymotrypsin related serine proteases both have a catalytic triad comprising aspartate, histidine and serine. In the subtilisin related proteases the relative order of these amino acids, reading from the amino to carboxy terminus, is aspartate-histidine-serine. In the chymotrypsin related proteases, the relative order, however, is histidine-aspartate-serine. Thus, subtilisin
30 herein refers to a serine protease having the catalytic triad of subtilisin related proteases. Examples include but are not limited to the subtilisins identified in Fig. 3 herein. Generally and for purposes of the present invention, numbering of the amino acids in proteases corresponds to the numbers assigned to the mature *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin sequence presented in Fig. 1.

"Recombinant subtilisin" or "recombinant protease" refer to a subtilisin or protease in which the DNA sequence encoding the subtilisin or protease is modified to produce a variant (or mutant) DNA sequence which encodes the substitution, deletion or insertion of one or more amino acids in the naturally-occurring amino acid sequence. Suitable
5 methods to produce such modification, and which may be combined with those disclosed herein, include those disclosed in US Patent RE 34,606, US Patent 5,204,015 and US Patent 5,185,258, U.S. Patent 5,700,676, U.S. Patent 5,801,038, and U.S. Patent 5,763,257.

"Non-human subtilisins" and the DNA encoding them may be obtained from many
10 procaryotic and eucaryotic organisms. Suitable examples of procaryotic organisms include gram negative organisms such as *E. coli* or *Pseudomonas* and gram positive bacteria such as *Micrococcus* or *Bacillus*. Examples of eucaryotic organisms from which subtilisin and their genes may be obtained include yeast such as *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, fungi such as *Aspergillus* sp.

15 A "protease variant" has an amino acid sequence which is derived from the amino acid sequence of a "precursor protease". The precursor proteases include naturally-occurring proteases and recombinant proteases. The amino acid sequence of the protease variant is "derived" from the precursor protease amino acid sequence by the substitution, deletion or insertion of one or more amino acids of the precursor amino acid
20 sequence. Such modification is of the "precursor DNA sequence" which encodes the amino acid sequence of the precursor protease rather than manipulation of the precursor protease enzyme *per se*. Suitable methods for such manipulation of the precursor DNA sequence include methods disclosed herein, as well as methods known to those skilled in the art (see, for example, EP 0 328299, WO89/06279 and the US patents and applications
25 already referenced herein).

Specific substitutions corresponding to position 103 in combination with one or more of the following substitutions corresponding to positions 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 27, 33, 37, 38, 42, 43, 48, 55, 57, 58, 61, 62, 68, 72, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 86, 87, 89, 97, 98, 99, 101, 102, 104, 106, 107, 109, 111, 114, 116, 117, 119, 121,
30 123, 126, 128, 130, 131, 133, 134, 137, 140, 141, 142, 146, 147, 158, 159, 160, 166, 167, 170, 173, 174, 177, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 188, 192, 194, 198, 203, 204, 205, 206, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 222, 224, 227, 228, 230, 232, 236, 237, 238, 240, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 265, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 274 and 275 of *Bacillus*
35 *amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin are identified herein.

Preferred variants are those having combinations of substitutions at residue positions corresponding to positions of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin in Table 1.

More preferred variants are those having combinations of substitutions at residue positions corresponding to positions of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin in Table 3.

- 5 Further preferred variants are those having combinations of substitutions at residue positions corresponding to positions of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin in Table 2.

[illegible]

12	68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245				
20	68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245	259			
68	76	87	103	104	159	232	236	245	260			
68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245	261				
12	48	68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245			
76	103	104	159	192	232	236	245					
76	103	104	147	159	232	236	245	248	251			
12	68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245	272			
68	76	103	104	159	183	206	232	236	245			
68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245	256				
68	76	103	104	159	206	232	236	245				
27	68	76	103	104	159	232	236	245				
68	103	104	159	212	232	236	245	248	252			
103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252					
68	103	104	159	209	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	109	159	232	236	245	248	252			
20	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	209	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	210	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	212	232	236	245	248	252			

68	103	104	159	213	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	213	232	236	245	248	252				
68	103	104	159	215	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	216	232	236	245	248	252			
20	68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	255			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	256			
68	103	104	159	232	236	245	248	252	260			
68	103	104	159	228	232	236	245	248	252			
68	76	89	103	104	159	210	213	232	236	245	260	
68	103	104	159	218	232	236	245	248	252			

These amino acid position numbers refer to those assigned to the mature *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin sequence presented in Fig. 1. The invention, however, is not limited to the mutation of this particular subtilisin but extends to precursor proteases containing amino acid residues at positions which are "equivalent" to the particular
5 identified residues in *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin. In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the precursor protease is *Bacillus lentus* subtilisin and the substitutions are made at the equivalent amino acid residue positions in *B. lentus* corresponding to those listed above.

A residue (amino acid) position of a precursor protease is equivalent to a residue
10 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin if it is either homologous (i.e., corresponding in position in either primary or tertiary structure) or analogous to a specific residue or portion of that residue in *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin (i.e., having the same or similar functional capacity to combine, react, or interact chemically).

In order to establish homology to primary structure, the amino acid sequence of a
15 precursor protease is directly compared to the *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin primary sequence and particularly to a set of residues known to be invariant in subtilisins for which sequence is known. For example, Fig. 2 herein shows the conserved residues as between *B. amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin and *B. lentus* subtilisin. After aligning the conserved residues, allowing for necessary insertions and deletions in order to maintain
20 alignment (i.e., avoiding the elimination of conserved residues through arbitrary deletion and insertion), the residues equivalent to particular amino acids in the primary sequence of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin are defined. Alignment of conserved residues preferably should conserve 100% of such residues. However, alignment of greater than 75% or as little as 50% of conserved residues is also adequate to define equivalent
25 residues. Conservation of the catalytic triad, Asp32/His64/Ser221 should be maintained. Siezen et al. (1991) Protein Eng. 4(7):719-737 shows the alignment of a large number of serine proteases. Siezen et al. refer to the grouping as subtilases or subtilisin-like serine proteases.

For example, in Fig. 3, the amino acid sequence of subtilisin from *Bacillus*
30 *amyloliquefaciens*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Bacillus licheniformis* (carlsbergensis) and *Bacillus lentus* are aligned to provide the maximum amount of homology between amino acid sequences. A comparison of these sequences shows that there are a number of conserved residues contained in each sequence. These conserved residues (as between BPN' and *B. lentus*) are identified in Fig. 2.

These conserved residues, thus, may be used to define the corresponding equivalent amino acid residues of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin in other subtilisins such as subtilisin from *Bacillus lentus* (PCT Publication No. W089/06279 published July 13, 1989), the preferred protease precursor enzyme herein, or the subtilisin referred to as PB92 (EP 0 328 299), which is highly homologous to the preferred *Bacillus lentus* subtilisin. The amino acid sequences of certain of these subtilisins are aligned in Figs. 3A and 3B with the sequence of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin to produce the maximum homology of conserved residues. As can be seen, there are a number of deletions in the sequence of *Bacillus lentus* as compared to *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin. Thus, for example, the equivalent amino acid for Val165 in *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin in the other subtilisins is isoleucine for *B. lentus* and *B. licheniformis*.

"Equivalent residues" may also be defined by determining homology at the level of tertiary structure for a precursor protease whose tertiary structure has been determined by x-ray crystallography. Equivalent residues are defined as those for which the atomic coordinates of two or more of the main chain atoms of a particular amino acid residue of the precursor protease and *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin (N on N, CA on CA, C on C and O on O) are within 0.13nm and preferably 0.1nm after alignment. Alignment is achieved after the best model has been oriented and positioned to give the maximum overlap of atomic coordinates of non-hydrogen protein atoms of the protease in question to the *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin. The best model is the crystallographic model giving the lowest R factor for experimental diffraction data at the highest resolution available.

$$R\ factor = \frac{\sum_h |F_o(h)| - |F_c(h)|}{\sum_h |F_o(h)|}$$

Equivalent residues which are functionally analogous to a specific residue of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin are defined as those amino acids of the precursor protease which may adopt a conformation such that they either alter, modify or contribute to protein structure, substrate binding or catalysis in a manner defined and attributed to a specific residue of the *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin. Further, they are those residues of the precursor protease (for which a tertiary structure has been obtained by x-ray crystallography) which occupy an analogous position to the extent that, although the

main chain atoms of the given residue may not satisfy the criteria of equivalence on the basis of occupying a homologous position, the atomic coordinates of at least two of the side chain atoms of the residue lie within 0.13nm of the corresponding side chain atoms of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin. The coordinates of the three dimensional structure of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin are set forth in EPO Publication No. 0 251 446 (equivalent to US Patent 5,182,204, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference) and can be used as outlined above to determine equivalent residues on the level of tertiary structure.

Some of the residues identified for substitution are conserved residues whereas others are not. In the case of residues which are not conserved, the substitution of one or more amino acids is limited to substitutions which produce a variant which has an amino acid sequence that does not correspond to one found in nature. In the case of conserved residues, such substitutions should not result in a naturally-occurring sequence. The protease variants of the present invention include the mature forms of protease variants, as well as the pro- and prepro-forms of such protease variants. The prepro-forms are the preferred construction since this facilitates the expression, secretion and maturation of the protease variants.

"Prosequence" refers to a sequence of amino acids bound to the N-terminal portion of the mature form of a protease which when removed results in the appearance of the "mature" form of the protease. Many proteolytic enzymes are found in nature as translational proenzyme products and, in the absence of post-translational processing, are expressed in this fashion. A preferred prosequence for producing protease variants is the putative prosequence of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin, although other protease prosequences may be used.

A "signal sequence" or "presequence" refers to any sequence of amino acids bound to the N-terminal portion of a protease or to the N-terminal portion of a proprotease which may participate in the secretion of the mature or pro forms of the protease. This definition of signal sequence is a functional one, meant to include all those amino acid sequences encoded by the N-terminal portion of the protease gene which participate in the effectuation of the secretion of protease under native conditions. The present invention utilizes such sequences to effect the secretion of the protease variants as defined herein. One possible signal sequence comprises the first seven amino acid residues of the signal sequence from *Bacillus subtilis* subtilisin fused to the remainder of the signal sequence of the subtilisin from *Bacillus lentus* (ATCC 21536).

-- 32 --

A "prepro" form of a protease variant consists of the mature form of the protease having a prosequence operably linked to the amino terminus of the protease and a "pre" or "signal" sequence operably linked to the amino terminus of the prosequence.

"Expression vector" refers to a DNA construct containing a DNA sequence which
5 is operably linked to a suitable control sequence capable of effecting the expression of said DNA in a suitable host. Such control sequences include a promoter to effect transcription, an optional operator sequence to control such transcription, a sequence encoding suitable mRNA ribosome binding sites and sequences which control termination of transcription and translation. The vector may be a plasmid, a phage particle, or simply
10 a potential genomic insert. Once transformed into a suitable host, the vector may replicate and function independently of the host genome, or may, in some instances, integrate into the genome itself. In the present specification, "plasmid" and "vector" are sometimes used interchangeably as the plasmid is the most commonly used form of vector at present. However, the invention is intended to include such other forms of
15 expression vectors which serve equivalent functions and which are, or become, known in the art.

The "host cells" used in the present invention generally are procaryotic or eucaryotic hosts which preferably have been manipulated by the methods disclosed in US Patent RE 34,606 to render them incapable of secreting enzymatically active
20 endoprotease. A preferred host cell for expressing protease is the *Bacillus* strain BG2036 which is deficient in enzymatically active neutral protease and alkaline protease (subtilisin). The construction of strain BG2036 is described in detail in US Patent 5,264,366. Other host cells for expressing protease include *Bacillus subtilis* 1168 (also described in US Patent RE 34,606 and US Patent 5,264,366, the disclosure of which are
25 incorporated herein by reference), as well as any suitable *Bacillus* strain such as *B. licheniformis*, *B. lentus*, etc.

Host cells are transformed or transfected with vectors constructed using recombinant DNA techniques. Such transformed host cells are capable of either replicating vectors encoding the protease variants or expressing the desired protease
30 variant. In the case of vectors which encode the pre- or prepro-form of the protease variant, such variants, when expressed, are typically secreted from the host cell into the host cell medium.

"Operably linked," when describing the relationship between two DNA regions, simply means that they are functionally related to each other. For example, a
35 presequence is operably linked to a peptide if it functions as a signal sequence,

participating in the secretion of the mature form of the protein most probably involving cleavage of the signal sequence. A promoter is operably linked to a coding sequence if it controls the transcription of the sequence; a ribosome binding site is operably linked to a coding sequence if it is positioned so as to permit translation.

5 The genes encoding the naturally-occurring precursor protease may be obtained in accord with the general methods known to those skilled in the art. The methods generally comprise synthesizing labeled probes having putative sequences encoding regions of the protease of interest, preparing genomic libraries from organisms expressing the protease, and screening the libraries for the gene of interest by
10 hybridization to the probes. Positively hybridizing clones are then mapped and sequenced.

 The cloned protease is then used to transform a host cell in order to express the protease. The protease gene is then ligated into a high copy number plasmid. This plasmid replicates in hosts in the sense that it contains the well-known elements
15 necessary for plasmid replication: a promoter operably linked to the gene in question (which may be supplied as the gene's own homologous promoter if it is recognized, i.e., transcribed, by the host), a transcription termination and polyadenylation region (necessary for stability of the mRNA transcribed by the host from the protease gene in certain eucaryotic host cells) which is exogenous or is supplied by the endogenous
20 terminator region of the protease gene and, desirably, a selection gene such as an antibiotic resistance gene that enables continuous cultural maintenance of plasmid-infected host cells by growth in antibiotic-containing media. High copy number plasmids also contain an origin of replication for the host, thereby enabling large numbers of plasmids to be generated in the cytoplasm without chromosomal limitations. However, it
25 is within the scope herein to integrate multiple copies of the protease gene into host genome. This is facilitated by procaryotic and eucaryotic organisms which are particularly susceptible to homologous recombination.

 The gene can be a natural *B. lentus* gene. Alternatively, a synthetic gene encoding a naturally-occurring or mutant precursor protease may be produced. In such
30 an approach, the DNA and/or amino acid sequence of the precursor protease is determined. Multiple, overlapping synthetic single-stranded DNA fragments are thereafter synthesized, which upon hybridization and ligation produce a synthetic DNA encoding the precursor protease. An example of synthetic gene construction is set forth in Example 3 of US Patent 5,204,015, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by
35 reference.

Once the naturally-occurring or synthetic precursor protease gene has been cloned, a number of modifications are undertaken to enhance the use of the gene beyond synthesis of the naturally-occurring precursor protease. Such modifications include the production of recombinant proteases as disclosed in US Patent RE 34,606
5 and EPO Publication No. 0 251 446 and the production of protease variants described herein.

The following cassette mutagenesis method may be used to facilitate the construction of the protease variants of the present invention, although other methods may be used. First, the naturally-occurring gene encoding the protease is obtained and
10 sequenced in whole or in part. Then the sequence is scanned for a point at which it is desired to make a mutation (deletion, insertion or substitution) of one or more amino acids in the encoded enzyme. The sequences flanking this point are evaluated for the presence of restriction sites for replacing a short segment of the gene with an oligonucleotide pool which when expressed will encode various mutants. Such restriction
15 sites are preferably unique sites within the protease gene so as to facilitate the replacement of the gene segment. However, any convenient restriction site which is not overly redundant in the protease gene may be used, provided the gene fragments generated by restriction digestion can be reassembled in proper sequence. If restriction sites are not present at locations within a convenient distance from the selected point
20 (from 10 to 15 nucleotides), such sites are generated by substituting nucleotides in the gene in such a fashion that neither the reading frame nor the amino acids encoded are changed in the final construction. Mutation of the gene in order to change its sequence to conform to the desired sequence is accomplished by M13 primer extension in accord with generally known methods. The task of locating suitable flanking regions and
25 evaluating the needed changes to arrive at two convenient restriction site sequences is made routine by the redundancy of the genetic code, a restriction enzyme map of the gene and the large number of different restriction enzymes. Note that if a convenient flanking restriction site is available, the above method need be used only in connection with the flanking region which does not contain a site.

30 Once the naturally-occurring DNA or synthetic DNA is cloned, the restriction sites flanking the positions to be mutated are digested with the cognate restriction enzymes and a plurality of end termini-complementary oligonucleotide cassettes are ligated into the gene. The mutagenesis is simplified by this method because all of the oligonucleotides can be synthesized so as to have the same restriction sites, and no
35 synthetic linkers are necessary to create the restriction sites.

As used herein, proteolytic activity is defined as the rate of hydrolysis of peptide bonds per milligram of active enzyme. Many well known procedures exist for measuring proteolytic activity (K. M. Kalisz, "Microbial Proteinases," Advances in Biochemical Engineering/Biotechnology, A. Fiechter ed., 1988). In addition to or as an alternative to
5 modified proteolytic activity, the variant enzymes of the present invention may have other modified properties such as K_m , k_{cat} , k_{cat}/K_m ratio and/or modified substrate specificity and/or modified pH activity profile. These enzymes can be tailored for the particular substrate which is anticipated to be present, for example, in the preparation of peptides or for hydrolytic processes such as laundry uses.

10 In one aspect of the invention, the objective is to secure a variant protease having altered, preferably improved wash performance as compared to a precursor protease in at least one detergent formulation and or under at least one set of wash conditions.

There is a variety of wash conditions including varying detergent formulations, wash water volume, wash water temperature and length of wash time that a protease
15 variant might be exposed to. For example, detergent formulations used in different areas have different concentrations of their relevant components present in the wash water. For example, a European detergent typically has about 4500-5000 ppm of detergent components in the wash water while a Japanese detergent typically has approximately 667 ppm of detergent components in the wash water. In North America, particularly the
20 United States, a detergent typically has about 975 ppm of detergent components present in the wash water.

A low detergent concentration system includes detergents where less than about 800 ppm of detergent components are present in the wash water. Japanese detergents are typically considered low detergent concentration system as they have approximately
25 667 ppm of detergent components present in the wash water.

A medium detergent concentration includes detergents where between about 800 ppm and about 2000ppm of detergent components are present in the wash water. North American detergents are generally considered to be medium detergent concentration systems as they have approximately 975 ppm of detergent components present in the
30 wash water. Brazil typically has approximately 1500 ppm of detergent components present in the wash water.

A high detergent concentration system includes detergents where greater than about 2000 ppm of detergent components are present in the wash water. European detergents are generally considered to be high detergent concentration systems as they
35 have approximately 4500-5000 ppm of detergent components in the wash water.

-- 36 --

Latin American detergents are generally high suds phosphate builder detergents and the range of detergents used in Latin America can fall in both the medium and high detergent concentrations as they range from 1500 ppm to 6000 ppm of detergent components in the wash water. As mentioned above, Brazil typically has approximately 1500 ppm of detergent components present in the wash water. However, other high suds phosphate builder detergent geographies, not limited to other Latin American countries, may have high detergent concentration systems up to about 6000 ppm of detergent components present in the wash water.

In light of the foregoing, it is evident that concentrations of detergent compositions in typical wash solutions throughout the world varies from less than about 800 ppm of detergent composition ("low detergent concentration geographies"), for example about 667 ppm in Japan, to between about 800 ppm to about 2000 ppm ("medium detergent concentration geographies"), for example about 975 ppm in U.S. and about 1500 ppm in Brazil, to greater than about 2000 ppm ("high detergent concentration geographies"), for example about 4500 ppm to about 5000 ppm in Europe and about 6000 ppm in high suds phosphate builder geographies.

The concentrations of the typical wash solutions are determined empirically. For example, in the U.S., a typical washing machine holds a volume of about 64.4 L of wash solution. Accordingly, in order to obtain a concentration of about 975 ppm of detergent within the wash solution about 62.79 g of detergent composition must be added to the 64.4 L of wash solution. This amount is the typical amount measured into the wash water by the consumer using the measuring cup provided with the detergent.

As a further example, different geographies use different wash temperatures. The temperature of the wash water in Japan is typically less than that used in Europe. Accordingly one aspect of the present invention includes a protease variant that shows improved wash performance in at least one set of wash conditions.

In another aspect of the invention, it has been determined that substitutions at a position corresponding to 103 in combination with one or more substitutions selected from the group consisting of positions corresponding 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 27, 33, 37, 38, 42, 43, 48, 55, 57, 58, 61, 62, 68, 72, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 86, 87, 89, 97, 98, 99, 101, 102, 104, 106, 107, 109, 111, 114, 116, 117, 119, 121, 123, 126, 128, 130, 131, 133, 134, 137, 140, 141, 142, 146, 147, 158, 159, 160, 166, 167, 170, 173, 174, 177, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 188, 192, 194, 198, 203, 204, 205, 206, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 222, 224, 227, 228, 230, 232, 236, 237, 238, 240, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256,

-- 37 --

257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 265, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 274 and 275 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin are important in improving the wash performance of the enzyme.

These substitutions are preferably made in *Bacillus lentus* (recombinant or native-type) subtilisin, although the substitutions may be made in any *Bacillus* protease.

Based on the screening results obtained with the variant proteases, the noted mutations in *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin are important to the proteolytic activity, performance and/or stability of these enzymes and the cleaning or wash performance of such variant enzymes.

Many of the protease variants of the invention are useful in formulating various detergent compositions or personal care formulations such as shampoos or lotions. A number of known compounds are suitable surfactants useful in compositions comprising the protease mutants of the invention. These include nonionic, anionic, cationic, or zwitterionic detergents, as disclosed in US 4,404,128 to Barry J. Anderson and US 4,261,868 to Jiri Flora, et al. A suitable detergent formulation is that described in Example 7 of US Patent 5,204,015 (previously incorporated by reference). The art is familiar with the different formulations which can be used as cleaning compositions. In addition to typical cleaning compositions, it is readily understood that the protease variants of the present invention may be used for any purpose that native or wild-type proteases are used. Thus, these variants can be used, for example, in bar or liquid soap applications, dishcare formulations, contact lens cleaning solutions or products, peptide hydrolysis, waste treatment, textile applications, as fusion-cleavage enzymes in protein production, etc. The variants of the present invention may comprise enhanced performance in a detergent composition (as compared to the precursor). As used herein, enhanced performance in a detergent is defined as increasing cleaning of certain enzyme sensitive stains such as grass or blood, as determined by usual evaluation after a standard wash cycle.

Proteases of the invention can be formulated into known powdered and liquid detergents having pH between 6.5 and 12.0 at levels of about 0.01 to about 5% (preferably 0.1% to 0.5%) by weight. These detergent cleaning compositions can also include other enzymes such as known proteases, amylases, cellulases, lipases or endoglycosidases, as well as builders and stabilizers.

The addition of proteases of the invention to conventional cleaning compositions does not create any special use limitation. In other words, any temperature and pH suitable for the detergent is also suitable for the present compositions as long as the pH

is within the above range, and the temperature is below the described protease's denaturing temperature. In addition, proteases of the invention can be used in a cleaning composition without detergents, again either alone or in combination with builders and stabilizers.

5 The present invention also relates to cleaning compositions containing the protease variants of the invention. The cleaning compositions may additionally contain additives which are commonly used in cleaning compositions. These can be selected from, but not limited to, bleaches, surfactants, builders, enzymes and bleach catalysts. It would be readily apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art what additives are suitable for
10 inclusion into the compositions. The list provided herein is by no means exhaustive and should be only taken as examples of suitable additives. It will also be readily apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art to only use those additives which are compatible with the enzymes and other components in the composition, for example, surfactant.

 When present, the amount of additive present in the cleaning composition is from
15 about 0.01% to about 99.9%, preferably about 1% to about 95%, more preferably about 1% to about 80%.

 The variant proteases of the present invention can be included in animal feed such as part of animal feed additives as described in, for example, US 5,612,055; US 5,314,692; and US 5,147,642.

20 One aspect of the invention is a composition for the treatment of a textile that includes variant proteases of the present invention. The composition can be used to treat for example silk or wool as described in publications such as RD 216,034; EP 134,267; US 4,533,359; and EP 344,259.

 The following is presented by way of example and is not to be construed as a
25 limitation to the scope of the claims.

 All publications and patents referenced herein are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

Example 1

30 A large number of protease variants were produced and purified using methods well known in the art. All mutations were made in *Bacillus lentus* GG36 subtilisin. The variants are shown in Table 3.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V	R275H				
N76D	S103A	V104I	L257V	R275H								
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	T224A	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V				
N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V					
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R				
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	G211R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R				
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	G211V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R				
Q12R	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y214L	A232V	Q236H	Q245R			
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A215R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R				
Q12R	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R				
G20R	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	S259G			
V68A	S87R	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260V			
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N261G				
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N261W				
N76D	S103A	V104I	A232V	Q236H	S242P	Q245R						
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210L	A232V	Q236H	Q245R				
Q12R	A48V	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R			
N76D	S103A	V104I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R				Q245R			
N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y192F	A232V	Q236H	Q245R					

-- 50 --

N76D	S103A	V104I	V147I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248S	K251R			
Q12R	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	A272S			
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	N183K	Q206L	A232V	Q236H	Q245R			
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	S256R				
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	Q206R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R				
K27R	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R				
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	N116T	G159D	R170S	N185S	A232V	Q236H	Q245R		
G61E	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
N43D	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212P	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	S99N	G159D	N184D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	Q109R	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
G20R	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209F	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	N261D			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	N185D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			

V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210T	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210S	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	N185D	P210L	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210L	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212A	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	T213S	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
V68A	A103V	V104I	G159D	T213E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A215V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A215R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S216T	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S216V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S216C	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
G20A	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	N173D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			

V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	K251V	N252K				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	Q206R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252F					
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252L					
P55S	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252F				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	T255V				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	S256N				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	S256E				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	S256R				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	T260R				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	L257R				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	G258D				
I8V	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	N269D			
V68A	S103A	V104I	N116S	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	T260E			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	N261R				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	N261D				
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
V68A	S103A	V104I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K						
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232S	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K						

V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236R	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
N18S	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245V	N248D	N252K				
V68A	N76D	S101T	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	N218S	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A	
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A228V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
T33S	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
V68A	N76D	E89D	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210L	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A	
G61E	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R					
G61E	V68A	S103A	V104I	S130A	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
G61E	V68A	S103A	V104I	A133S	Q137R	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	
G61E	S103A	V104I	A133V	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248G	N252K				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	N218S	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
G61E	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S160V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
S3L	G61E	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
G61E	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S167F	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
G97E	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
A98D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				

S99E	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S101E	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	S106E	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	Q109E	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	N261R					
S103A	V104I	Q109R	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	G159D	N184D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	G159D	S166D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	G159D	L217E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
G20R	N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
S103A	V104I	G159D	Q206R	L217E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	Q206R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
S103A	V104I	S130G	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	P131V	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
K27N	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					

T38G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
T38A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A			
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A	E271G		
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A		
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210I	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A		
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A		
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A				
N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A				
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R					
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R					
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A230V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R					
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	L126F	A232V	Q236H	Q245R					
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R					
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210L	A232V	Q236H	Q245R					
S103A	V104I	G159D	A230V	Q236H	Q245R							
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A					
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R							
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A174V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V				

V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A194S	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V					
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V					
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V							
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A	N261W			
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V	N261W					
S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A						
S103A	V104I	G159D	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V						
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210L	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A			
Q12R	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A				
S103A	V104I	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V							
S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	P210I	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A				
S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A					
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	Y209W	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R				
S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	Y209W	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V				
S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V					
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	Y209W	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A			
S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	Y209W	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R					
S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V					
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	Y209W	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A			
S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	Y209W	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R					
S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R						

S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R						
V68A	S103A	V104I	S128L	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R						
A48V	S103A	V104I	G159D	A230V	Q236H	Q245R							
A48V	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R					
A48V	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
A48V	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	L257V	N261W				
G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
Q12R	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S101G	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
A98L	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				
S103A	V104I	P131V	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	G159D	N184S	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	G159D	N184G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	V244T	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	V244A	Q245R	N248D	N252K					
N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	S256R			
Q12R	N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	N185D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				

S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	Q206E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213Q	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
A98L	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S101G	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
A98L	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
A98L	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	N248D	N252K			
N62D	S103A	V104I	Q109R	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
N62D	S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q245R	N248D	N252K						
S103A	V104I	G159D	A230V	Q245R								
N62D	S103A	V104I	S130G	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
S101G	S103A	V104I	S130G	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S101G	S103A	V104I	S128G	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S101G	S103A	V104I	S128L	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
N62D	S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
N62D	S103A	V104I	S128G	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
N62D	S103A	V104I	S128L	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				

S101G	S103A	V104I	P131V	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
A98V	S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S99G	S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A230V	Q236H	Q245R						
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A194P	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
N76D	S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A194P	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A230V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			
N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	N185D	Q206E	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	E271Q

Example 2

A large number of the protease variants produced in Example 1 were tested for performance in two types of detergent and wash conditions using a microswatch assay described in "An improved method of assaying for a preferred enzyme and/or preferred detergent composition", U.S. Serial No. 60/068,796.

Table 4 lists the variant proteases assayed and the results of testing in two different detergents. For column A, the detergent was 0.67 g/l filtered Ariel Ultra (Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, OH, USA), in a solution containing 3 grains per gallon mixed $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{Mg}^{2+}$ hardness, and 0.3 ppm enzyme was used in each well at 20°C. For column B, the detergent was 3.38 g/l filtered Ariel Futur (Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, OH, USA), in a solution containing 15 grains per gallon mixed $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{Mg}^{2+}$ hardness, and 0.3 ppm enzyme was used in each well at 40°C.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	G211R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R			1.74	1.76
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	G211V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R			3.15	1.06
Q12R	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y214L	A232V	Q236H	Q245R		2.33	1.92
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A215R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R			1.67	1.45
Q12R	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R			2.16	1.72
G20R	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	S259G		2.77	1.59
V68A	N76D	S87R	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260V		2.62	1.49
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N261G			2.92	0.68
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N261W			2.17	1.37
N76D	S103A	V104I	A232V	Q236H	S242P	Q245R					0.48	1.2
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210L	A232V	Q236H	Q245R			2.92	0.76
Q12R	A48V	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R		2.09	1.86
N76D	S103A	V104I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R						0.51	1.44
N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y192F	A232V	Q236H	Q245R				1.60	1.14
N76D	S103A	V104I	V147I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248S	K251R		1.35	1.29
Q12R	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	A272S		1.92	1.81
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	N183K	Q206L	A232V	Q236H	Q245R		1.17	1.53
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	S256R			2.01	1.72
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	Q206R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R			2.09	1.62
K27R	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R			3.00	1.08

V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	N116T	G159D	R170S	N185S	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	ND	ND
N76D	S103A	V104I	M222S	Q245R							1.01	1.23
Q12R	N76D	S103A	V104I	M222S	H249R						0.57	1.65
N76D	S103A	V104I	N173R	M222S							0.86	0.46
N76D	S103A	V104I	M222S	Y263F							1.24	0.77
L21M	N76D	S103A	V104I	M222S	K237R	Y263F					1.18	0.76
N76D	S103A	V104I	Q109R	M222S							0.52	1.16
N76D	S103A	V104I	Q109R	M222S	E271D						0.56	1.12
G61R	N76D	S103A	V104I	M222S							0.43	0.96
N76D	S103A	V104I	Q137R	M222S							0.42	1.25
N76D	S103A	V104I	M222S	H249R							1.15	1.01
Q12R	N76D	S103A	V104I	M222S	Q245R						0.53	1.46
N76D	S103A	V104I	A232V	Q245R							0.69	1.56
Q12R	N76D	S103A	I104T	M222S	V244I	Q245R					0.66	1.74
Q12R	N76D	S103A	V104I	M222S	P210T	Q245R					0.52	1.56
Q12R	N76D	S103A	I104T	S130T	M222S	Q245R					0.70	1.61
Q12R	N76D	S103A	I104T	S130T	A215V	M222S	Q245R				0.79	1.85
Q12R	N76D	S103A	I104T	S130T	M222S	V227A	Q245R	L262S			0.78	1.56
Q12R	N76D	S103A	I104T	S130T	M222S	Q245R	N261D				1.25	1.30
N76D	S103A	I104T	S130T	M222S	Q245R						1.29	1.30

Q12R	S57P	N76D	S103A	I104T	S130T	M222S	Q245R	K251Q		1.44	0.16
Q12R	N76D	S103A	I104T	S130T	R170S	N185D	M222S	N243D	Q245R	2.01	0.04
Q12R	N76D	S103A	I104T	S130T	M222S	Q245R	V268A			0.77	1.60
Q12R	N76D	S103A	I104T	S130T	M222S	P210S	Q245R			0.73	1.66
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R			2.09	0.86

Example 3

Table 5 lists the variant proteases assayed from Example 1 and the results of testing in four different detergents. The same performance tests as in Example 2 were done on the noted variant proteases with the following detergents. For column A, the detergent was 0.67 g/l filtered Ariel Ultra (Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, OH, USA), in a solution containing 3 grains per gallon mixed $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{Mg}^{2+}$ hardness, and 0.3 ppm enzyme was used in each well at 20°C. For column B, the detergent was 3.38 g/l filtered Ariel Futur (Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, OH, USA), in a solution containing 15 grains per gallon mixed $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{Mg}^{2+}$ hardness, and 0.3 ppm enzyme was used in each well at 40°C. For column C, 3.5g/l HSP1 detergent (Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, OH, USA), in a solution containing 8 grains per gallon mixed $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{Mg}^{2+}$ hardness, and 0.3 ppm enzyme was used in each well at 20°C. For column D, 1.5 ml/l Tide KT detergent (Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, OH, USA), in a solution containing 3 grains per gallon mixed $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{Mg}^{2+}$ hardness, and 0.3 ppm enzyme was used in each well at 20°C.

N76D	S103A	V104I											A	B	C	D
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K						1	1	1	1
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				1.44	1.41	1.39	1.26
V68A	S103A	V104I	Q109R	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.34	1.49	1.65	2.35
G20R	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				1.05	1.41	1.20	1.19
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209F	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				1.81	1.72	1.66	1.31
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	N185D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.19	1.38	1.60	2.02
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.91	0.91	1.48	2.70
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	N185D	P210L	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			0.93	1.39	1.23	0.80
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210L	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	N252K			2.67	0.86	1.41	2.88
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212C	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.22	1.43	1.55	1.78
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.30	1.43	1.63	2.07
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.31	1.47	1.62	2.01
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.63	0.56	1.36	2.66
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.75	0.50	1.27	2.78
V68A	S103A	V104I	T213S	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					1.11	1.38	1.31	0.75
V68A	A103V	V104I	G159D	T213E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.27	0.15	1.12	2.01
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				1.37	1.42	1.37	1.06
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A215V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.14	1.40	1.53	1.54

-- 72 --

V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A215R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					1.22	1.58	1.47	1.20
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S216T	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.12	1.36	1.56	1.56
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S216V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					1.88	1.36	1.47	1.87
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S216C	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.24	0.33	1.07	2.89
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	N173D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.43	0.46	1.29	2.42
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	Q206R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					0.98	1.46	1.24	0.95
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252F						2.52	1.00	1.42	2.42
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252L						2.05	1.13	1.30	1.85
P55S	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252F					2.61	0.91	1.43	3.22
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	T255V					2.18	1.36	1.58	1.72
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	S256N					2.14	1.46	1.59	1.65
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	S256E					2.46	0.77	1.33	2.58
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	S256R					1.31	1.52	1.46	0.94
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	T260R					1.21	1.41	1.31	1.05
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	L257R					1.51	1.41	0.85	1.18
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	G258D					2.56	0.59	1.30	2.64
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	N261R					1.02	1.47	1.37	0.84
V68A	S103A	V104I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K							1.04	1.50	1.32	0.73
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245V	N248D	N252K						2.60	0.93	1.41	2.67
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A228V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.31	1.38	1.53	1.57
G61E	V68A	S103A	V104I	S130A	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.83	0.25	1.33	2.44

-- 73 --

G61E	S103A	V104I	A133V	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.10	0.97	1.36	2.29
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248G	N252K					1.37	1.54	0.89	1.27
V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	N218S	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.30	1.50	1.62	1.56
G20R	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				1.72	1.72	1.67	1.15
V68A	N76D	E89D	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210L	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	T260A		1.32	1.30	1.11	1.28
V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.50	0.83	1.43	2.25
G61E	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S160V	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			4.20	0.07	ND	1.28
S3L	G61E	V68A	N76D	S103A	V104I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			3.47	0.60	ND	1.45
G61E	V68A	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y167F	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			4.32	0.79	ND	1.55
G97E	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					3.14	0.41	ND	1.40
A98D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.71	0.68	ND	1.72
S99E	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.97	0.68	ND	1.71
S101E	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					3.50	0.27	ND	1.90
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.24	1.80	ND	1.33
G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					3.35	1.33	ND	1.69
S103A	V104I	S106E	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					4.88	0.55	ND	2.71
S103A	V104I	Q109E	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					4.22	1.05	ND	2.40
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	N261R					5.45	2.19	ND	2.58
S103A	V104I	Q109R	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					3.76	2.16	ND	1.82
N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					7.42	0.13	ND	2.46
S103A	V104I	G159D	N184D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					5.43	1.36	ND	2.84

74

S103A	V104I	G159D	S166D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				5.12	1.21	ND	3.97
S103A	V104I	G159D	L217E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				6.38	0.95	ND	3.09
G20R	N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		3.17	2.83	ND	2.60
N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			4.38	1.92	ND	2.54
S103A	V104I	G159D	Q206R	L217E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			3.05	2.61	ND	1.10
N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	Q206R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			4.09	2.46	ND	2.55
S103A	V104I	G159D	N184G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.32	2.08	ND	2.40
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	V244T	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.34	2.04	ND	1.86
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	V244A	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.24	2.11	ND	1.95
K27N	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.81	1.56	ND	2.47
T38G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.30	2.09	ND	1.82
N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	S256R		2.63	2.66	ND	1.44
Q12R	N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		2.01	2.78	ND	1.99
N62D	S103A	V104I	G159D	N185D	Q206E	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K	7.74	0.94	ND	5.39
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	N185D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			5.14	1.41	ND	1.92
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	Q206E	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			4.97	0.57	ND	1.36
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213Q	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			2.41	1.86	ND	1.01
A98L	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			4.42	0.50	ND	2.88
S101G	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			5.86	1.20	ND	3.84
G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			5.87	2.10	ND	3.19
Q12R	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K		2.98	2.67	ND	2.17

A98L	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				4.02	0.41	ND	2.25
S101G	G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				6.63	2.07	ND	2.08
G102A	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.03	2.48	ND	2.25
N62D	S103A	V104I	Q109R	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.96	2.76	ND	2.34
S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q245R	N248D	N252K								2.74	2.10	ND	1.86
S103A	V104I	G159D	A230V	Q245R										2.11	2.35	ND	1.49
N62D	S103A	V104I	S130G	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				3.42	0.71	ND	2.58
S101G	S103A	V104I	S130G	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.59	1.32	ND	1.61
S101G	S103A	V104I	S128G	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					1.30	1.23	ND	9.0
S101G	S103A	V104I	S128L	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.94	0.71	ND	1.08
N62D	S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				3.17	0.83	ND	2.35
N62D	S103A	V104I	S128G	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				2.15	1.38	ND	1.77
N62D	S103A	V104I	S128L	G159D	T213R	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				3.07	0.07	ND	1.45
S101G	S103A	V104I	P131V	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.26	1.16	ND	3.05
A98V	S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					1.82	1.34	ND	1.08
S99G	S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					2.16	1.47	ND	1.20
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	S212G	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					1.79	1.38	ND	1.01
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	Y209W	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					1.15	1.18	ND	8.7
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	P210I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					1.47	1.23	ND	1.03
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	V205I	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K					1.90	1.38	ND	1.05
S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A230V	Q236H	Q245R								1.55	1.51	ND	1.23

-- 76 --

S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A194P	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K				1.96	1.30	ND	1.10
N76D	S101G	S103A	V104I	G159D	A194P	A232V	Q236H	Q245R	N248D	N252K			2.49	0.80	ND	1.25

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A protease variant comprising substituting an amino acid at a residue position corresponding to position 103 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin and substituting one
5 or more amino acids at residue positions selected from the group consisting of residue positions corresponding to positions 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 27, 33, 37, 38, 42, 43, 48, 55, 57, 58, 61, 62, 68, 72, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 86, 87, 89, 97, 98, 99, 101, 102, 104, 106, 107, 109, 111, 114, 116, 117, 119, 121, 123, 126, 128, 130, 131, 133, 134, 137, 140, 141, 142, 146, 147, 158, 159, 160, 166, 167, 170, 173, 174,
10 177, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 188, 192, 194, 198, 203, 204, 205, 206, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 222, 224, 227, 228, 230, 232, 236, 237, 238, 240, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 265, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 274 and 275 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin; wherein when a substitution at a position corresponding to
15 residue position 103 is combined with a substitution at a position corresponding to residue position 76, there is also a substitution at one or more residue positions other than residue positions corresponding to positions 27, 99, 101, 104, 107, 109, 123, 128, 166, 204, 206, 210, 216, 217, 218, 222, 260, 265, or 274 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin.
20
2. The protease variant according to claim 1 which is derived from a *Bacillus* subtilisin.
3. The protease variant according to claim 2 which is derived from *Bacillus lentus*
25 subtilisin.
4. A DNA encoding a protease variant of claim 1.
5. An expression vector encoding the DNA of claim 4.
30
6. A host cell transformed with the expression vector of claim 5.
7. A cleaning composition comprising the protease variant of claim 1.

8. An animal feed comprising the protease variant of claim 1.
9. A composition for treating a textile comprising the protease variant of claim 1.
- 5 10. The protease variant according to claim 1 comprising a substitution set selected from the group consisting of residue positions corresponding to positions in Table 1 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin.
- 10 11. The protease variant according to claim 10 comprising a substitution set selected from the group consisting of residue positions corresponding to positions in Table 3 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin.
- 15 12. The protease variant according to claim 10 comprising a substitution set selected from the group consisting of residue positions corresponding to positions in Table 2 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin.

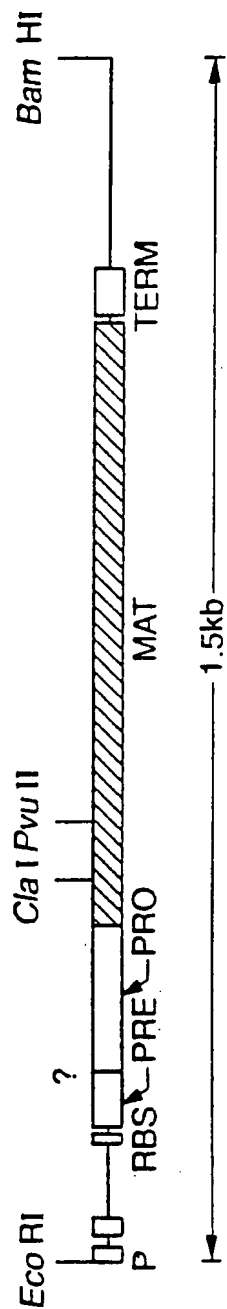


FIG. 1A

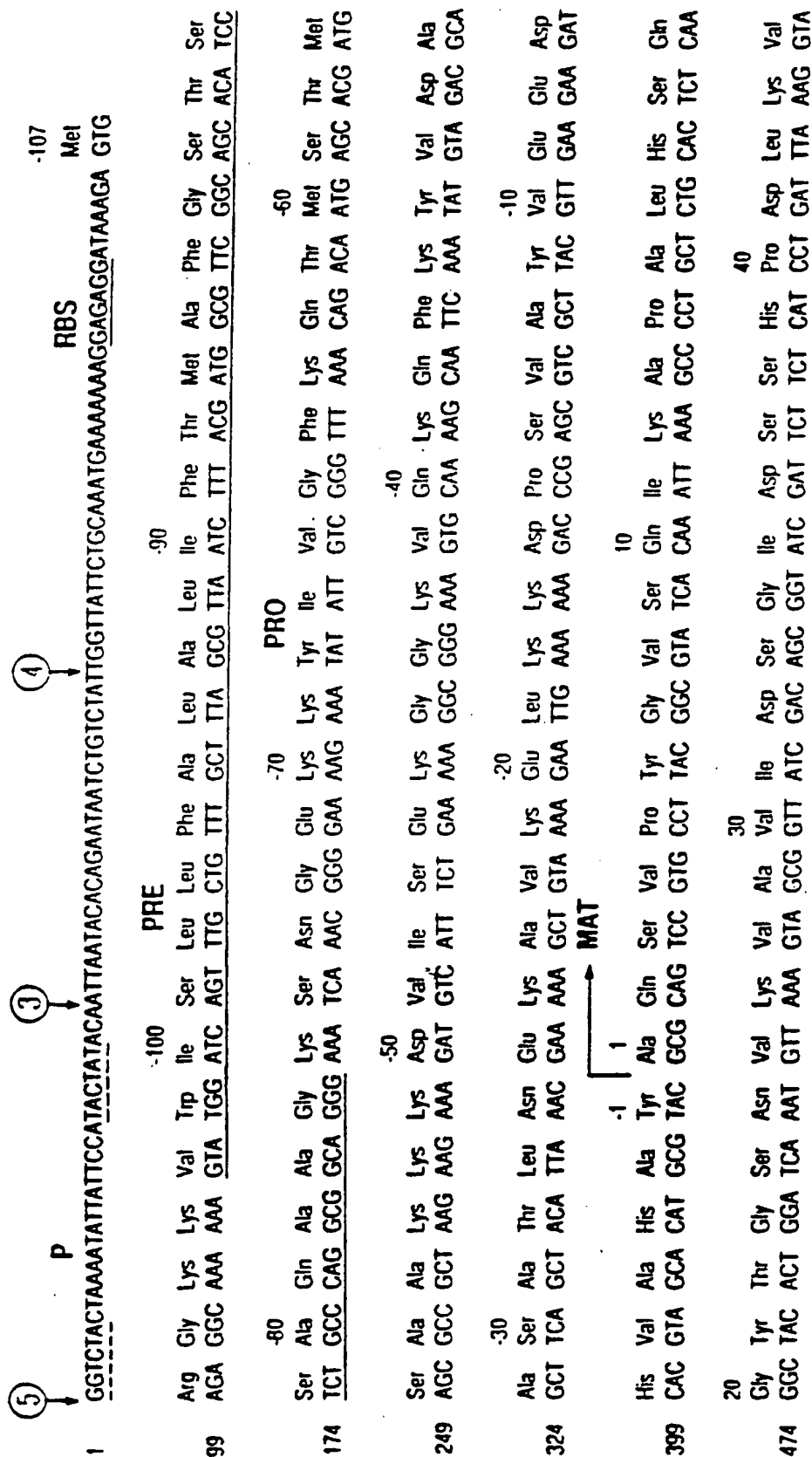


FIG. 1B - 1

FIG. 1B-2

1149 CAA CAA GTC CGC AGC AGT TTA GAA AAC AAC ACC ACC Thr Thr Thr Lys Leu Gly Asp Ser Ser Phe Tyr Tyr Gly Lys Gly Leu Ile Asn
 250 Gln Gln
 270 Val Gln Ala Ala Ala Gln OC
 1224 GTA CAG CAG GCG GCA GCT CAG TAA AACATAAAACCGGCCCTGGCCCCCGCGGTTTTTATTTTCTCTCCGCAATGTTCAATCCGCTCC
 1316 ATAATCCACGGATGGCTCCCTCTGAAAATTTTAACGAGAAACGGGGGTTGACCCGGCTCAGTCCCGTAACGGCCAAAGTCTGAAACGTTCAATCGCGC
 1416 CTCCCGGTTCCGGTCAGCTCAATGCCGTACGGTCCGGCGGTTTTTCTGATACCGGGAGACGGCATTGTAATCGGATC

FIG._1B - 3

FIG._1B - 1

FIG._1B - 2

FIG._1B - 3

FIG._1B

CONSERVED RESIDUES IN SUBTILISINS FROM
BACILLUS AMYLOLIQUEFACIENS

```
1           10           20
A Q S V P . G . . . . . A P A . H . . G

21           30           40
. T G S . V K V A V . D . G . . . . H P

41           50           60
D L . . . G G A S . V P . . . . . Q D

61           70           80
. N . H G T H V A G T . A A L N N S I G

81           90           100
V L G V A P S A . L Y A V K V L G A . G

101          110          120
S G . . S . L . . G . E W A . N . . . .

121          130          140
V . N . S L G . P S . S . . . . . A . .

141          150          160
. . . . . G V . V V A A . G N . G . . .

161          170          180
. . . . . Y P . . Y . . . . . A V G A .

181          190          200
D . . N . . A S F S . . G . . L D . . A

201          210          220
P G V . . Q S T . P G . . Y . . . . N G T

221          230          240
S M A . P H V A G A A A L . . . . K . . .

241          250          260
W . . . Q . R . . L . N T . . . L G . .

261          270
. . Y G . G L . N . . A A . .
```

FIG._2

COMPARISON OF SUBTILISIN SEQUENCES FROM:

*B. amyloquelaciens**B. subtilis**B. licheniformis**B. lentus*

01	A Q S V P Y G V S Q I K A P A L H S Q G Y T G S N V K V A V I D S G I D S S H P	30	A Q S V P Y G I S Q I K A P A L H S Q G Y T G S N V K V A V I D S G I D S S H P
	A Q T V P Y G I P L I K A D K V Q A Q G F K G A N V K V A V L D T G I Q A S H P		A Q S V P W G I S R V Q A P A A H N R G L T G S G V K V A V L D T G I S T * H P
41	D L K V A G G A S S M V P S E T N P F Q D D N S H G T H V A G T V A A L N N S I G	60	D L N V R G G A S S F V P S E T N P Y Q D D G S S H G T H V A G T I A A L N N S I G
	D L N V R G G A S S F V P S E T N P Y Q D D G S S H G T H V A G T I A A L N N S I G		D L N V R G G A S S F V P S E T N P Y Q D D G S S H G T H V A G T I A A L N N S I G
	D L N V R G G A S S F V P S E T N P Y Q D D G S S H G T H V A G T I A A L N N S I G		D L N V R G G A S S F V P S E T N P Y Q D D G S S H G T H V A G T I A A L N N S I G
81	V L G V A P S A S L Y A V K V L G A D G S G Q Y S W I I N G I E W A I A N N M D	100	V L G V A P S A S L Y A V K V L G A D G S G Q Y S W I I N G I E W A I A N N M D
	V L G V A P S A S L Y A V K V L G A D G S G Q Y S W I I N G I E W A I A N N M D		V L G V A P S A S L Y A V K V L G A D G S G Q Y S W I I N G I E W A I A N N M D
	V L G V A P S A S L Y A V K V L G A D G S G Q Y S W I I N G I E W A I A N N M D		V L G V A P S A S L Y A V K V L G A D G S G Q Y S W I I N G I E W A I A N N M D
121	V I N M S L G G P S G S A A L K A A V D K A V A S G V V V A A A G N E G T S G	140	V I N M S L G G P S G S A A L K A A V D K A V A S G V V V A A A A G N E G T S G
	V I N M S L G G P S G S A A L K A A V D K A V A S G V V V A A A A A G N E G S S G		V I N M S L G G P S G S A A L K A A V D K A V A S G V V V A A A A A G N E G S S G
	V I N M S L G G P S G S A A L K A A V D K A V A S G V V V A A A A A G N E G S S G		V I N M S L G G P S G S A A L K A A V D K A V A S G V V V A A A A A G N E G S S G

FIG._3A

161 S S S T V G Y P G K Y P S V I A V G A V D S S N Q R A S F S S V G P E L D V M A
S S S T V G Y P A K Y P S T I A V G A V N S S N Q R A S F S S A G S E L D V M A
S S T N T I G Y P A K Y P S V I A V G A V D S S N Q R A S F S S V G A E L E V M A
* * * I S Y P A R Y A N A M A V G A T D Q N N N R A S F S Q Y G A G L D I V A

201 P G V S I Q S T L P G N K Y G A Y N G T S S M A S P H V A G A A A L I L S K H P N
P G V S I Q S T L P G N K Y G A Y N G T S S M A S P H V A G A A A L I L S K H P T
P G A G V Y S T Y P P T N T Y A T L N G T S S M A S P H V A G A A A L I L S K H P N
P G V N V Q S T Y P P G S T Y A S L N G T S S M A S P H V A G A A A L V K Q K N P S

241 W T N T Q V R S S L E N T T T K L G D S F Y Y G K G L I N V Q A A A Q
W T N A Q V R D R L E S S T A T Y L G N S F Y Y G K G L I N V Q A A A Q
L S A S Q V R N R L S S T A T Y L G S S F Y Y G K G L I N V E A A A Q
W S N V Q I R N H L K N T A T S L G S T N L Y G S G L V N A E A A T R

FIG._3B

FIG._3A

FIG._3B

FIG._3